

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A device to assist in regenerating bone, the device configured to at least partially surround the bone to be regenerated and defining a cavity next to the bone, ~~the device further including one or more openings through which a material may be placed into the cavity,~~ the cavity for retaining ~~the a~~ material next to the bone, the material comprising a substance for stimulating bone growth, wherein the device is comprised of wire mesh ~~that includes:~~
 - (a) a plurality of first openings; and
 - (b) one or more second openings through which the material may be placed into the cavity, wherein each of the one or more second openings are larger than each of the plurality of first openings.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 that is preformed to fit over the bone to be regenerated.
4. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 wherein the bone is a jaw bone of a human.
5. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein each of the one or more second openings has a dimension of about .180 inches by .090 inches.
6. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein there are two second openings.
7. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 6 wherein the device has two sides and ~~a top~~ one of the second openings is on a side of the device and the other second opening is on the opposite side of the device.

8. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 wherein the wire mesh is comprised of steel.
9. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 that further includes a space through which the shaft of a screw may pass so that the device may be attached to a post by the screw.
10. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 9 that further includes a post retained in the bone, and a screw with a shaft, the shaft passing through the spaces and being received in the post thereby securing the device to the post.
11. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 that is dimensioned to fit over the entire lower jaw of a human.
12. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 that is dimensioned to fit over the entire upper jaw of a human.
13. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 wherein the material is a collagen sponge.
14. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 wherein the substance is morphogenetic protein.
15. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 13 wherein the sponge contains morphogenetic protein.
16. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 that snap fits onto a post.
17. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 that further includes a material retained in the cavity.
18. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the substance is morphogenetic protein.
19. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 17 wherein the material is positioned in the cavity prior to the device being secured to a post affixed in the bone.

20. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 wherein the wire mesh is formed from wire having ~~has~~ a diameter of 0.015".
21. (Cancelled)
22. (Cancelled)
23. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 wherein the device is formed of a material that can be absorbed into the body.
24. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 that further includes a mating component, the mating component having a screw for attaching to a post.
25. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 24 wherein the mating component is configured to mate with the configuration of a post mounted in a jaw.
26. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 24 wherein the screw can turn without turning the device.
27. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 wherein the wire mesh has an open wire mesh structure.